

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 06359 211138Z

12

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9025

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 6359

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SF, XA, XF, SG, FT, FR

SUBJ: SENEGALESE VIEWS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA AND
MIDDLE EAST

1. SUMMARY: DIRECTEUR DE CABINET AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, YOUSSEPH SYLLA, IN CONVERSATION ON NOV 20
EXPRESSED GROWING CONCERN AND FRUSTRATION OF THIRD WORLD,
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OVER WHAT THEY CONSIDER US AND
WESTERN FAILURE TO TAKE MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN PRESSURING
SOUTH AFRICA ON RHODESIA, NAMIBIA, AND APARTHEID. ONLY
WAY TO GET SOUTH AFRICA TO ENTER INTO MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE
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PAGE 02 DAKAR 06359 211138Z

AND PREVENT VIOLENT CONFRONTATION, SYLLA SAID, IS TO

FORCE ISSUE BY WIDENING SANCTIONS. IN MIDDLE EAST
"GREAT POWERS" SHOULD CEASE DEALING WITH PALESTINIANS
AS REFUGEE PROBLEM AND ENCOURAGE MODERATE PALESTINIAN
FORCES TO SAVE POSITION OF ISRAELIS. AT SAME TIME
SYLLA POLITELY POINTED OUT THAT TIME IS APPROACHING
WHEN THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES WILL BE IN POSITION TO USE
THEIR RAW MATERIALS AS MEANS OF BRINGING GREATER PRESSURE
ON INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCOMPANIED BY AF DIRECTOR ZACHARY AND HAVERKAMP OF EMBASSY
LONDON, I CALLED ON YOUSSEF SYLLA, DIRECTEUR DE CABINET
AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON NOV 20 FOR TOUR
D'HORIZON ON SOUTHERN AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST. SYLLA
OPENED CONVERSATION BY ASSERTING THAT THIRD WORLD
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BECOMING INCREASINGLY FRUSTRATED BY
US AND GENERAL WESTERN OVER-CONCERN WITH SOVIET AND
CHINESE INFLUENCE IN AFRICA AND WITH STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE
OF SOUTH AFRICA, WHILE FAILING TO DEAL WITH REAL THREAT
TO PEACE POSED BY SAG'S INTRANSIGENCE ON RHODESIA, NAMIBIA,
AND APARTHEID. GREAT POWER UNWILLINGNESS TO HEED AFRICAN
PLEAS FOR WIDER RANGING SANCTIONS AGAINST SAG ENCOURAGES
LATTER IN ITS INTRANSIGENCE. ADMITTEDLY, THERE ARE
HOPEFUL INDICATORS SUCH AS SOUTH AFRICAN RESTRAINT
IN MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA. ON RHODESIA, NAMIBIA, AND APART-
HEID, HOWEVER, SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE CONTINUED TO FLUT
UN AND SYLLA BELIEVES THAT PRIME MIN. VORSTER
HAS MADE IT CLEAR THERE IS NO HOPE FOR CHANGE
UNTIL GREAT POWERS ARE WILLING TO USE ONLY EFFECTIVE
LEVER, FURTHER SANCTIONS, TO BRING ABOUT NON-VIOLENT
FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES.

3. WHEN SYLLA MENTIONED FRENCH VIOLATIONS OF ARMS
EMBARGO AND US/UK VIOLATIONS "ECONOMIC SUPPORT" FOR
SAG, I REITERATED US ADHERENCE TO ARMS EMBARGO AND
BAN ON US NAVAL VISITS, AND ADDED THAT US ECONOMIC
INTERESTS IN REST OF AFRICA ARE OF CONSIDERABLY GREATER
IMPORTANCE TO US THAN OUR ECONOMIC INTERESTS IN SOUTH
AFRICA. SYLLA SAID WE SHOULD DO MORE TO CONVEY THIS
INFO TO OAU AND INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES.
SYLLA CONCLUDED HIS COMMENT ON SOUTHERN AFRICA BY SAYING
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PAGE 03 DAKAR 06359 211138Z

UNGA ACTION AGAINST SAG WAS ONLY "FIRST SANCTION" THAT
WOULD HIT SAG AND MUST BE FOLLOWED UP TO ALLOW FOR
MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE LEADING TO PEACEFUL CHANGE. ALTERNA-
TIVE IS MORE VIOLENT CONFRONTATION WITH INEVITABLE
CONSEQUENCES FOR WORLD PEACE. HE REPEATED POSITION
EXPRESSED IN DAKAR 5920 THAT SENEGAL'S FIRST PRIORITY
WAS TO KEEP SOUTH AFRICA FROM MEDDLING IN RHODESIA,
MOZAMBIQUE, ANGOLA AND NAMIBIA. CONCRETE MOVE IN THIS

DIRECTION AND EVIDENCE OF SA GOOD WILL TOWARDS BLACK AFRICA WOULD BE WITHDRAWAL OF POLICE AND SECURITY FORCES FROM RHODESIA. SECOND PRIORITY IS STRONG BLACK AFRICAN DIALOGUE WITH SA ON APARTHEID ISSUE ITSELF. (BRITISH AMBASSADOR TOLD EMBOFF ON NOV 19 THAT PRESIDENT SENGHOR HAD TOLD VISITING UK FOREIGN OFFICE DEP UNDER SECRETARY EARLIER IN WEEK THAT SENEGALESE CHIEF JUSTICE WOULD BE GOING TO SOUTH AFRICA EARLY IN 1975 TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE WITH HOMELAND LEADERS.)

4. ON MIDDLE EAST, SYLLA REITERATED SENEGALESE POSITION THAT ONLY WAY TO AVOID FURTHER BLOODSHED IS FOR GREAT POWERS (IE US, UK AND FRANCE) TO GIVE UP DEALING WITH PALESTINIAN PROBLEM AS PROBLEM OF REFUGEES AND RECOGNIZE THAT PALESTINE STATES, PERHAPS IDEALLY JEWISH-MOSLEM STATE, IS ONLY POLICY THAT CAN SUCCEED. BY ADOPTING SUCH A POLICY AND BRINGING PALESTINIAN MOVEMENTS UNDER INFLUENCE OF INTERNATIONAL FORUMS WE CAN ENCOURAGE MODERATE FORCES AMONG PALESTINIANS AND PRESERVE POSITION OF ISRAELIS IN THEIR HOMELAND.

5. SYLLA SAID FRENCH HAD REACTED STRONGLY TO SENGHOR'S STATEMENT IN NOV 8 PRESS CONF. THAT GOF WOULD SUPPORT REFERENDUM IN FRENCH SOMALILAND IF INHABITANTS REQUESTED SAME. ACCORDING TO SYLLA, DENIAL FROM ELYSEE HAD APPEARED IN LE MONDE. MATTER HAD BEEN "SOMEWHAT AGITATED BUT SMOOTHED OUT NOW".

6. COMMENTS: SYLLA'S COMMENTS APPEAR TO BE PART OF EXPANDING COORDINATED EFFORT BY AFRICAN STATES TO EXPRESS THEIR DISSATISFACTION WITH WHAT SYLLA CALLED "LIP SERVICE" TO PRINCIPLES INVOLVED WHILE FAILING TO FOLLOW UP WITH ACTION SUPPORT NECESSARY TO REALIZATION

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 DAKAR 06359 211138Z

OF THESE PRINCIPLES. HE ADMITTED THAT HIS POSITION WAS HARDER THAN THAT EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT SENGHOR IN HIS NOV 8 PRESS CONF.. THERE SENGHOR EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING BOTH FOR AFRICAN MOVE TO EXPEL SA AND ALLIED VETO OF SC RESOLUTION. IN GENTLE BUT PRECISE TERMS SYLLA ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT US AND OTHERS MUST EXPECT THAT TIME WILL COME WHEN THIRD WORLD SUPPLIERS OF RAW MATERIALS TO INDUSTRIALIZED POWERS WILL USE THEIR LEVER OF RAW MATERIALS AS MEANS TO PRESSURE US TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN EXERTING DIRECT INFLUENCE ON SOUTHERN AFRICANS AND ISRAELIS.

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